sations at Delhi and at other parts of the country during the above period.

(e) if so, the details thereof and what are their main demands and grievances; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demonstrations were held to mark the observance of the "Lhasa Uprising Day", to protest against the official level talks held between India and China in 1986 & 1987 and to express solidarity with Tibetans affected by the recent demonstrations in Lhasa

(c) According to available information, 217 Tibetan demonstrators were arrested during this period. They have been deleased.

(d) and (e) Representations received from Tibetan groups request, inter-alia, that the Tibetan issue should be raised at the United Nations, that the demand for Tibetan 'independence' should be supported and that H. H. the Dalai Lama's 5-Point Peace Plan also be supported

(f) Government regard Tibet as an autonomous region of China. Government would not like to be drawn into controversy in matters that concern relations between China and an autonomous region of that country

Facts about Tibet

3648. SHRI RAMSINGBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported posters, pamphlets, letters and cyclostyled papers, issued, published and pasted in Delhi and other places of the country very recently under the heading 'Facts about Tibet' issued by Assembly of Tibet People's Republic Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) Government have seen the pamphlet entitled "Facts about Tibet" issued by the "Assembly of Tibetan Peoples' Deputies" The pamphlet disputes that Tibet is a part of China and opines that the "Tibetan people were totally opposed to the Chinese occupation of Tibet and still continue to do so".

(c) Government regard Tibet as an autonomous region of China.

Import of defence equipment through Shri L. M Thapar

3649. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the defence equipments which were imported during last three years through the companies of Shri L. M Thapar; and

(b) what is the total amount involved in the above mentioned purchases and what proportion is shared by L M. Thapar's companies in the overall import during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The equipment requirements of the Defence Services are met through imports in case the required equipments are not available at all or are available in inadequate quantities through indigenous sources It will not be in the national interest to divulge details of the equipments imported for the Defence Services and the value thereof.